Government's commitment to ensuring peaceful celebrations of Durga Puja. Following the tight security measures, the Durga Puja celebrations were held in 17000 *puja mandaps* throughout the country.

Regular interaction is held with Government of Bangladesh at different levels and occasions including most recently on the eve of Durga Puja celebrations. Earlier, after the elections in Bangladesh in October 2001, the Government had noted with serious concern reports of attacks on minorities in Bangladesh. This was taken up at a high level with the Government of Bangladesh. Action has been reportedly initiated on many of the prepetrators of the violence.

Griha Kalyan Kendras

* 46. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Griha Kalyan Kendras (GKK) being run by Government across the country alongwith number of employees working therein, category-wise;

(b) whether Government propose to provide pensionary benefits to these employees;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) to (d) Griha Kalyan Kendra, a registered Society, is running its various welfare activities in 38 Samaj Sadans and 36 other premises in Delhi and in nine other cities. 245 employees are presently engaged in GKK whose cateogry-wise details are as follows:—

(I)	Secretary	1
(ii)	Office Superintendent	1
(iii)	Accounts Officers	1
(iv)	Security Officer	1
(v)	Centre Incharge	2
(vi)	Gym Instructor	2
(vii)	Cashier	3

(viii) Store Incharge	2
(ix) Office Assistant	3
(x) PA/Typist	2
(xi) Nursery Teacher	38
xii) Craft Teacher	28
(xiii) Creche Attendant	27
(xiv) Ayah	64
(xv) Chowkidar	45
(xvi) Driver	2
(xvii) Peon	1
(xviii) Mali	1
(xix) Sweeper	21
TOTAL	245

All the employees except, Secretary, Officer Superintendent and Accounts Officers are paid fixed honorarium only. They are, therefore, not eligible for pension. The present Secretary, is appointed on contract basis.The Office Superintendent and Accounts Officer are on deputation.

Upgradation of State roads into National Highways

* 47. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have upgraded some State-run roads to National Highways in the country during the Ninth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the funds spent thereon, project-wise and the progress of each project as on date;

(d) whether Government had received any specific request from Orissa for upgradation and development of some of their projects during Ninth Plan, which are still pending for consideration; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to consider those proposals during the Tenth Five Year Plan?